

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : SSCIA
RECORD NUMBER : 157-10004-10153

RECORDS SERIES :
CHRONOLOGY

AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

Released under the
John F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 53244 Date:
06-12-2017

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : NSC
FROM : PARROTT, THOMAS
TO :

TITLE :
CHRONOLOGY AND ISSUES

DATE : 00/00/75
PAGES : 8

SUBJECTS :
PARROTT, THOMAS
CHRONOLOGY AND ISSUES
OPERATION MONGOOSE
SPECIAL GROUP MEETINGS AND ISSUES

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : U
RESTRICTIONS : 1A, 1C, DONOR REST., REFERRED
CURRENT STATUS : X
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 08/09/94

OPENING CRITERIA :

COMMENTS :
BOX 452-1

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

452-1

THOMAS A. PARROTT

Chronology and Issues

Biographical Background

1949 CIA, Office of Policy Coordination

1950-1951 CIA, Staff Officer for "designated representatives" (group set up under NCS-10/2 to review covert operations)

1951-1957 CIA, Chief of Base, Frankfurt, Germany

1957-1959 CIA, Staff Officer for Operations

Jan 1959-1963 Chief of CIA, Section for Special Group

1963-1972 Intelligence Community Staff

1972- Retired
Present

Document Chronology

I. CASTRO

March 14, 1960-At a Special Group meeting, after a paper titled "General Covert Action Plan for Cuba" was read, there was

"a general discussion as to what would be the effect on the Cuban scene if Fidel and Raul Castro and Che Guevara should disappear simultaneously."

The minutes continue: "Admiral Burke said that the only organized group in Cuba today were the Communists and there was therefore the danger they might move into control. Mr.

~~TOP SECRET~~

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January 12, 1961-The Special Group approved a project with respect to the Dominican Republic as follows:

"...limited supplies of small arms and other material should be made available for dissidents inside the Dominican Republic. Mr. Parrott said that we believe this can be managed securely by CIA, and that the plan would call for final transportation into the country being provided by the dissidents themselves." (Source: Minutes, January 12, 1961, by T. Parrott of Special Group Meeting, January 12, 1961, 02756) Exhibit at Tab u

NO OBJECTION
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
CIA Condorcet required
7/15/94

May 18, 1961-At a Special Group Meeting, "General Cabell noted that the internal dissidents were pressing for the release to them of certain small arms now in U.S. hands in the Dominican Republic. He inquired whether the feeling of the Group remained that these arms should not be passed. The members showed no inclination to take a contrary position at this time." (Source: Minutes, May 18, 1961, by T. Parrott, of Special Group Meeting, May 18, 1961, 02769) Exhibit at Tab Y

III. LUMUMBA

August 25, 1960-After approving an anti-Lumumba political covert action program, the Special Group was told by Gordon Gray, Assistant to the President for National Security:

"Mr. Gray commented however, that his associates had expressed extremely strong feelings on the necessity for very straightforward action in this situation, and he wondered whether the plans as outlined would be sufficient to accomplish this." (Emphasis added.)

NOTE: Lumumba was assassinated on February 12, 1961. Bissell allegedly contacted [O'Donnell] about assassinating Lumumba in the fall of 1960.

NOTE: A reading of the Special Group minutes in context indicates that the phrase "Mr. Gray's associates" refers to the President. During the Kennedy Administration, the phrase "higher authority" was used in the Special Group minutes to refer to the President. No direct reference to the President appears in Special Group minutes.

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